

1 HONORABLE JUDGE BENJAMIN H. SETTLE
2 MAGISTRATE JUDGE J. RICHARD CREATURA
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

9 WILLIAM MARTIN,

10 Plaintiff,

11 v.

12 JEFF UTTECHT, et al.,

13 Defendants.

NO. 3:18-cv-05929-BHS-JRC

DEFENDANTS' RESPONSE TO
PLAINTIFF'S MOTIONS FOR A
STAY

14 Defendants, through their attorneys, hereby respond to Plaintiff's motions requesting an
15 extension of time, construed as requests for a stay in proceedings, at Dkt. Nos. 41 and 43.

16 **I. RESPONSE**

17 Defendants do not stipulate to Plaintiff's facts¹. Nor does it appear Plaintiff would be
18 prejudiced by this matter continuing, with the dispositive motion deadline passed², and with
19 Plaintiff already having responded to Defendants' motion for summary judgment. *See* Dkt. Nos.
20 40 and 42. Further, as it relates to the COVID-19 epidemic, the Court already appears to be
21 managing scheduling through issue of General Orders.

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25 ¹ The Washington State Department of Corrections is providing the public with information related to its
preparation for, and response to, the COVID-19 pandemic at <https://www.doc.wa.gov/news/covid-19.htm>.

26 ² The dispositive motion deadline was on March 6, 2020, there appears to be no other deadlines currently
in place in this matter. Dkt. No. 24.

1 At the same time, Defendants concede they would be unlikely to suffer any measurable
2 prejudice through a modest delay here. Defendants are therefore amenable to any stay, delay, or
3 extension of time the Court believed to be reasonable.

4 **II. CONCLUSION**

5 Defendants submit that any stay or extension of time would be best managed through the
6 Court's General Orders related to the COVID-19 epidemic. But should the Court believe this
7 matter deserves additional scheduling management beyond what is covered by General Orders,
8 Defendants would not oppose any reasonable delay in the proceedings here, should Plaintiff's
9 lawsuit continue past summary judgment.

10 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 25th day of March 2020.

11 ROBERT W. FERGUSON
12 Attorney General

13 s/ Marko L. Pavela
14 MARKO L. PAVELA, WSBA #49160
15 Assistant Attorney General
16 Corrections Division
17 P.O. Box 40116
18 Olympia, WA 98504-0116
19 360-586-1445
20 Marko.Pavela@atg.wa.gov
21
22
23
24
25
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